Encroachment permits shall not be issued for projects funded by local or private entities and costing more than \$1,000,000 without the district permits office receiving a copy of the fully executed cooperative or highway improvement agreement.

Similar funded projects costing \$1,000,000 or less are called Encroachment Permit Projects. They are processed through the district encroachment permit office.

## 108.2 Maintenance Work Performed by Volunteers

The Adopt-A-Highway (AAH) Program allows private: litter removal, seedling tree and shrub planting, wildflower planting, graffiti removal, Mission Bell placement, and vegetation control in the State highway right of way. Encroachment permits issued for AAH projects are exempt from permit fees and are issued for a five year term. (For additional information see Section 501.4 and the publication titled "Caltrans Adopt-A-Highway Program Guidelines and Coordinator's Handbook").

Program participants may include: individuals, businesses, corporations, and organizations. Excluded from participation are entities that advocate, violence, violation of the law, or discrimination based upon race, religion, color, national origin ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, age, or sex. Also excluded from participation are individuals, businesses, or organizations involved in the distribution, display, advertisement, or promotion of pornography, including those web sites that provide pornographic materials.

Applications for an AAH project are received and processed by the District AAH Coordinators. They respond to all program questions and conduct all technical reviews. The minimum age requirement for Adopt-A-Highway participation is sixteen years old. An encroachment permit is usually issued by the permit engineer with the recommendation of the AAH Coordinator. At the discretion of the District Permit Engineer, this responsibility may be delegated to the AAH Coordinator. Records associated with the project are microfilmed, and the project is closed-out when the permit expires.

Renewal of an expiring AAH permit normally is accomplished by issuing a new permit rather than extending the existing permit.

A Consent Letter may be issued by the Maintenance Regional Manager for one-day highway cleanup, or used for weed control and landscape maintenance in the right of way fronting upon an owner's property.